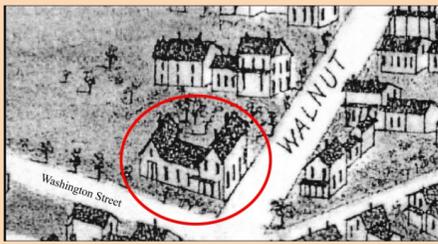


ARCHAEOLOGY IN DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER, NH: Ezekiel and Elisabeth Wentworth Homestead (27-ST-113)

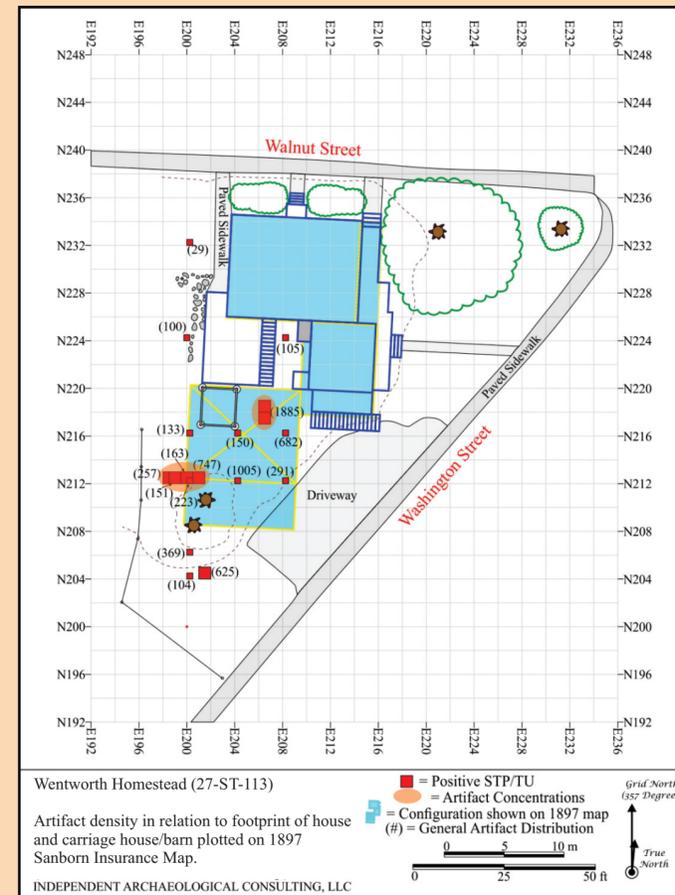
Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC (IAC) conducted an excavation in 2015 in the yard of the Ezekiel and Elisabeth Wentworth House that once stood at 2-4 Walnut Street within the Strafford Square Historic District. Named after the couple who built the house about 1853, the site yielded more than 7,000 artifacts. The artifacts date from the 1870s to the 1920s and are associated with the extended family and heirs of Dr. Nathaniel Dorman who bought the house in 1867. These include members of the Dorman, Kimball, and Allen families who lived in the house for the next 80 years. The project was funded by the City of Rochester and the Federal Highway Administration, and overseen by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.



House on Bird's Eye View of Rochester (Stoner 1877)



Wentworth House at 2-4 Walnut Street, 2015

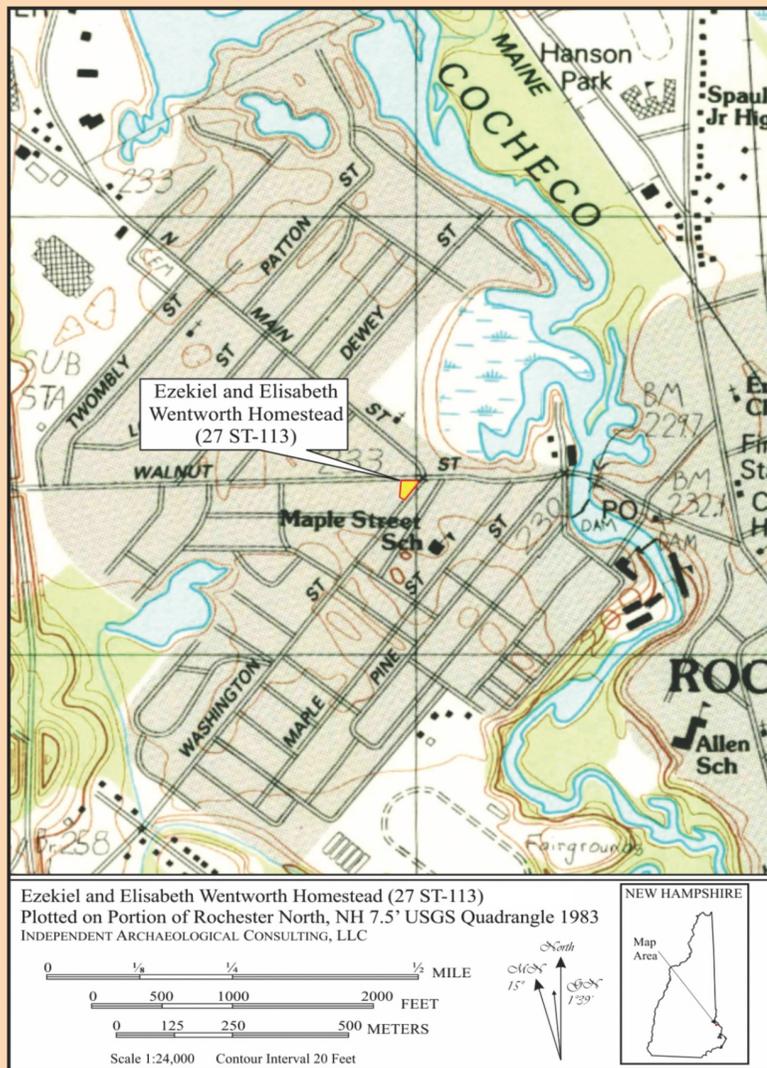


Wentworth Homestead (27-ST-113)
Artifact density in relation to footprint of house and carriage house/barn plotted on 1897 Sanborn Insurance Map.
INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, LLC



Trench N212 E198 showing layered deposits (stratigraphy) and dense artifact concentration

Archaeologists divide the excavation area into a grid along both a north-south and an east-west axis so that they can record exactly where the artifacts come from. They also record the depth and soil layer (stratum) from which artifacts are recovered. This allows the archaeologist to consider how and when materials were discarded and what the artifacts can tell us about family life. IAC noted two artifact concentrations in the cellar of a former 19th-century carriage house/barn behind the house as shown in the adjacent figure. These dense concentrations included domestic glass and ceramics, and a notably large quantity of medicinal bottles, some whole.



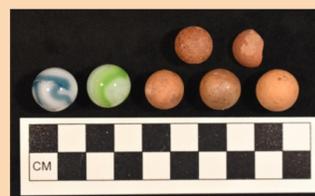
Artifacts included household waste such as broken ceramic vessels, food waste (animal bone) and bottle glass, as well as architectural debris (brick, nails, window glass). In their analysis, archaeologists identified 157 individual ceramic plates, bowls, cups, or saucers, mostly undecorated. IAC counted 337 glass vessels and containers for beer, whiskey, champagne, root beer extracts, food and condiment jars, and 44 medicine bottles. Personal items and toys found at the site include buttons, belt buckles, eyeglass lens, pocket watch, doll parts, marbles, and a toy airplane.



White Granite plates and cups date to the 1870s – 1890s



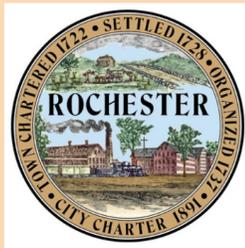
Root Beer Extract Bottles



Marbles and toy airplane found at Wentworth Site



Range of personal items recovered – comb, smoking pipe stem, buckles, eyeglass lens, pocket watch, buttons, pins, pocket knife



19TH - and EARLY 20TH -CENTURY MEDICINE IN ROCHESTER: Consumer Choices and What the Artifacts Tell Us

To better understand archaeological deposits discovered at the Wentworth Homestead and their connection to former occupants, IAC completed in-depth research and analysis of 44 medicine bottles recovered at the Wentworth Homestead site. The archaeologists developed a series of research questions to discuss consumer decisions and medical and health strategies available to the extended Dorman/Kimball/Allen family in residence at 2-4 Walnut Street between the 1870s and the 1920s.



Bottles and vials for prescription compounds, tonics, and powders



Prescription for strong painkiller written by Rochester physician, James Farrington



Paine's Celery Compound for "racked nerves"

Rochester residents had several medical choices when it came to taking care of their health.

- **Regular (allopathic) medicine** generally employed aggressive treatment including bleeding and prescribing strong laxatives and emetics (to produce vomiting). Beginning in the mid 19th century, the American Medical Association set medical standards and licensing for physicians.
- **Homeopathic doctors** treated their patients by administering a milder version of a disease as a drop of medicine on a sugar cube. The milder version counteracted the illness under the premise that two diseases cannot exist in the body.
- **Botanical medicine** utilized natural herbs and extracts for home use that were available without a prescription. No doctor's visit required.
- **Patent and Proprietary Medicine** capitalized on the self-help craze and offered a quick fix for a variety of ills. Formulas were closely held, manufactured and distributed by their "proprietors," and advertised and sold nationally.

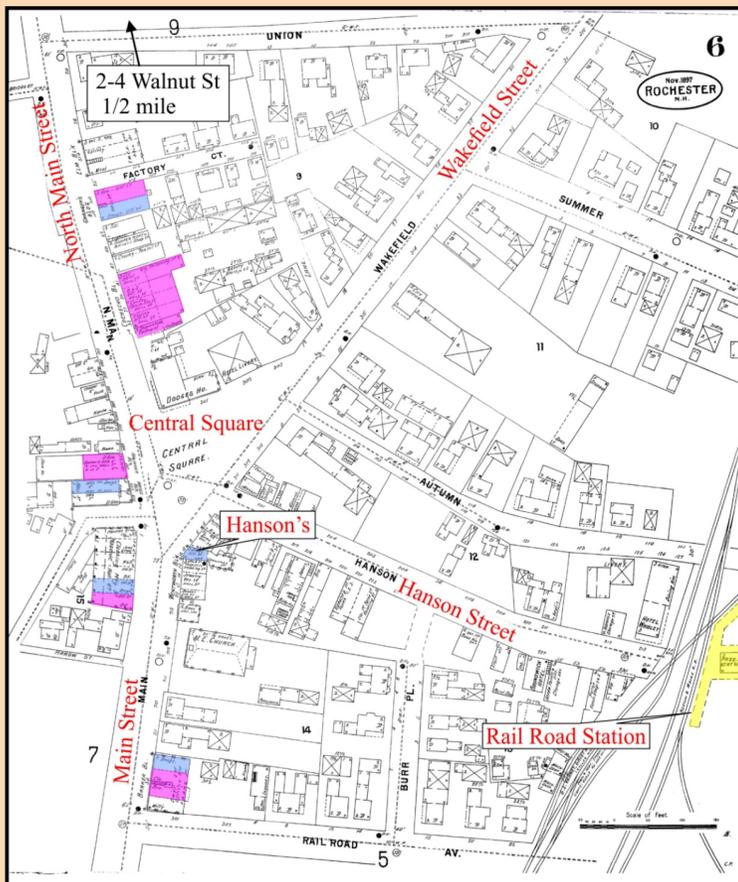
Archaeologists recovered fifteen (15) embossed proprietary bottles at the site

Proprietary Medicine Name	Approximate Date	Cost per bottle
California Fig Syrup Co. San Francisco, CA	1880-1890	50 cents - \$1
Children's Comfort / George E. Fairbanks Worcester, Mass	1890s	
John Wyeth & Bro	1872-1907	variable
Wyeth & Bro. with dose cap	1899+	variable
Johnson's American Anodyne Liniment	1890s	25-35 cents
Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound	1876-1920	\$1
Mellin's Infant's Food- Doliber Goodale Co., Boston	Post 1890	75 cents
Milk of Magnesia	Post 1906	50 cents
Dr. Hubbard's Vegetable Disinfectant	1895+	\$1-\$2
Paine's Celery Compound	Post 1882	60 cents
Twitchell Champlin & Co- Neuralgic Anodyne	1883-1930s	25 cents

Main ingredients – morphine, alcohol, and ether



Two Johnson's Anodyne bottles



Location of Apothecaries and Physician Offices in Downtown Rochester, NH Illustrated on 1897 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map
INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, LLC

Physician's offices, apothecaries (drugstores, pharmacies) clustered around Central Square in downtown Rochester.

Directory year	Number of physicians	Number of apothecaries	Rochester population
1871	6	11	4103
1882	8	4	5784
1897	11	5	7396
1902	13	8	8466



Mellin's Food was a powdered formula developed in 1866 by a London chemist Gustav Mellin as a nutritional supplement and substitute for mother's milk



Wyeth & Bro was precursor to a major pharmaceutical company (Pfizer). This bottle includes embossed markings for a timed dosage

Patent and Proprietary Medicine

Many proprietary medicines claimed to cure a wide range of complaints, from bad breath to racked nerves to cholera. Available at pharmacies, by mail, or through traveling salesmen, these remedies were much more expensive than regular prescriptions. A bottle of Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, an herbal tonic marketed to women for "female complaints," sold for \$1 per bottle, while a typical prescription cost 10 to 35 cents. Many companies went out of business after the 1906 Food & Drug Act outlawed false claims and required listing of ingredients.